(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (c) No, Sir.

(b) and (d) Do not arise.

Repair of railway bridges

2472. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of old railway bridges which need repair in 2002-2003;

(b) the estimated expenditure for the above purpose;

(c) the funds available so far in Railway Safety Fund; and

(d) the funds utilised, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (d) Age is not the criteria for deciding the bridge repair and rehabilitation programme. On Indian Railways bridges are rehabilitated/re-built on the basis of the physical condition as assessed from annual inspections. Bridge rehabilitation/rebuilding is carried out from (i) Special Railway Safety Fund (SRSF) and (ii) Depreciation Reserve Fund (DRF). Rs. 1530 crores have been allocated for bridge rehabilitation/ rebuilding out of SRSF for period of five years. For the year 2002-03 Rs. 143 crore out of SRSF and Rs. 66 crores out of DRF have been allocated, out of which an amount of Rs. 82.3 crores (Rs. 63.54 crores out of SRSF and Rs. 18.75 crores out of DRF) have been spent upto 30.9.2002.

Discontinuation of Bhopal-Jodhpur passenger train

†2473. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to discontinuation of Bhopal-Jodhpur passenger train *via* Gulabganj, the people of this area are facing problems;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.